



# STATE OF MINNESOTA **COVID-19 Update**

Office of Governor Walz and Lt. Governor Flanagan

# COVID-19 response in Minnesota



- By staying home, Minnesotans have **saved lives and bought critical time.**
- We have built hospital capacity and finalized a lease on an alternate care site to make sure that all Minnesotans who need care can receive it.
- We are working to acquire more personal protective equipment to protect our frontline workers.
- We announced a landmark testing strategy that will allow us to test every symptomatic Minnesotan.

# A breakthrough in testing capacity



- In partnership with state's health care delivery systems, the Mayo Clinic, and the University of Minnesota, we are ramping up efforts to provide statewide for COVID-19.
  - Establishing the capacity to deliver 20,000 molecular and 15,000 serology tests per day. This is one of the most aggressive testing initiatives in the US.
  - Just yesterday, we tested the most Minnesotans in a single day since we saw our first case: 3,279 tests were completed—roughly 400 more than our previous record.
- We unveiled a new website to help Minnesotans determine if they need testing and find a testing location within their community.
  - This testing collaborative now includes 177 clinics and health care facilities across the state.
  - <https://mn.gov/covid19/>

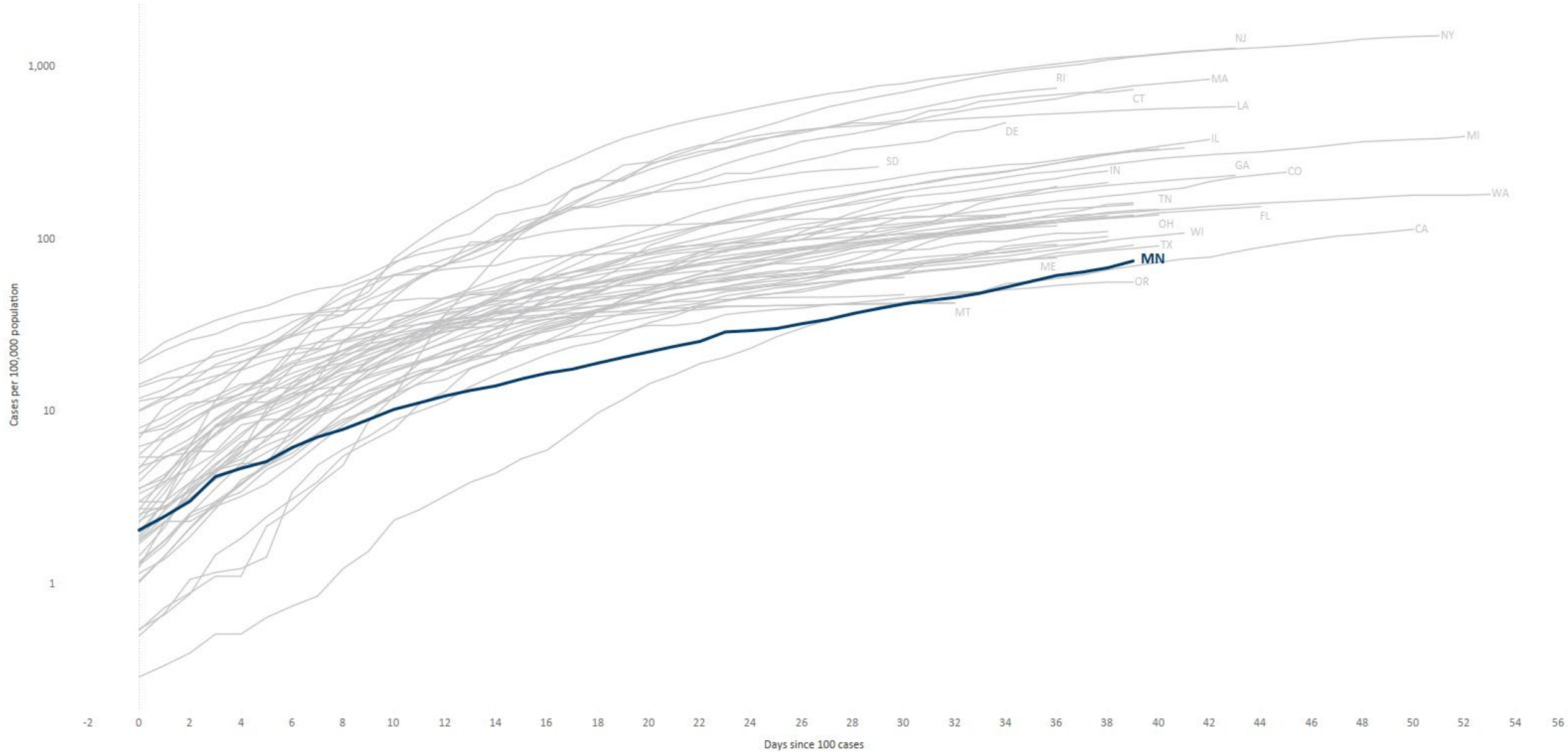
# We have made progress, but still work to do



	Beginning of the pandemic	Today	Remaining Progress
Critical care capacity (ICU beds with ventilators)	Unclear	More than 2,500	Continue enhancing surge plans
Personal Protective Equipment (obtained by the State of Minnesota)	0	Gloves 5,800,000 Face masks 1,100,000 N95 Respirators 477,000 Face shields 174,000 Gowns 122,000	Continue competing for needed supplies
Testing capacity (COVID-19 PCR)	0	More than 2,000 daily	Test all symptomatic Minnesotans

# Positive COVID cases per 100,000 residents

SINCE 100 POSITIVE CASES, BY STATE



Note: Displayed on a logarithmic scale  
Source: Coronavirus Pandemic (COVID-19) by Max Roser, Hannah Ritchie, Esteban Ortiz-Ospina and Joe Hasell, Our World in Data; The COVID Tracking Project

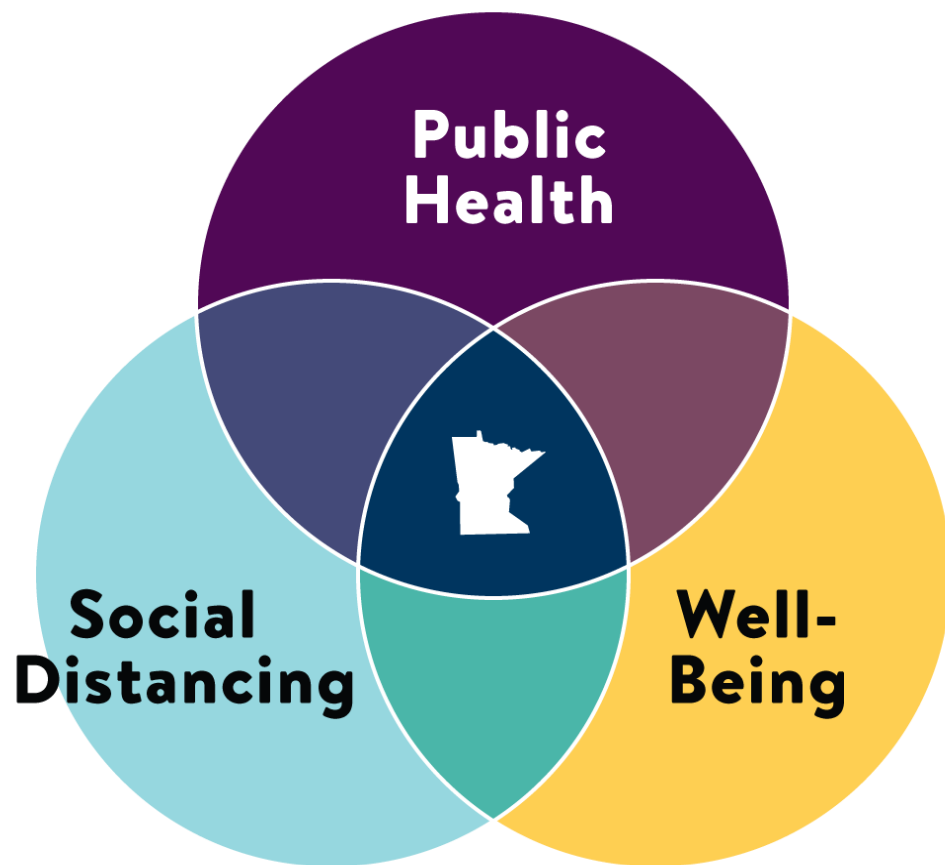
# Objectives for moving forward



- Minnesotans living healthy, safe, and happy lives.
- Slow spread and slowly build immunity, realizing elimination is impossible.
- Protect those working on the front lines by increasing access to personal protective equipment.
- Ensure our health system can care for all of those who require treatment for COVID and other conditions.
- Strategically get more Minnesotans back to work.
- Safely and slowly resume in-person contacts and other activities that are critical for our well-being.



# Factors to consider when loosening restrictions



## Public Health

### Key Questions

- ✓ How does this impact the possible spread of the disease?
- ✓ How prepared are we to test, trace, and isolate those in our community who are exposed?
- ✓ Are our hospitals prepared to treat increasing patients?
- ✓ How does this impact public health for non-COVID-19 illnesses?

## Social Distancing

### Key Questions

- ✓ Can you effectively social distance when doing this action?
- ✓ Do we have the supplies needed to keep workers and customers safe?
- ✓ How big is the gathering and will people be safe?
- ✓ Are the settings predictable in how people gather and interact?

## Societal Well-being

### Key Questions

- ✓ Will this action help spur economic recovery?
- ✓ Does this action promote the mental health and well-being of the public?
- ✓ Does this action encourage our communities to return to civic life in a thoughtful way?
- ✓ Does this action meaningfully improve the lives of those who have been disproportionately impacted by COVID-19?

# Plans for Moving Minnesota Forward



- 1. Extend the Stay Home and Bars, Restaurants, and Public Accommodations Executive Orders until Monday, May 18.**
- 2. Allow additional retail businesses to reopen operations for curbside pick-ups and delivery—putting up to 30,000 Minnesotans back to work.**



# Curbside pickup and delivery

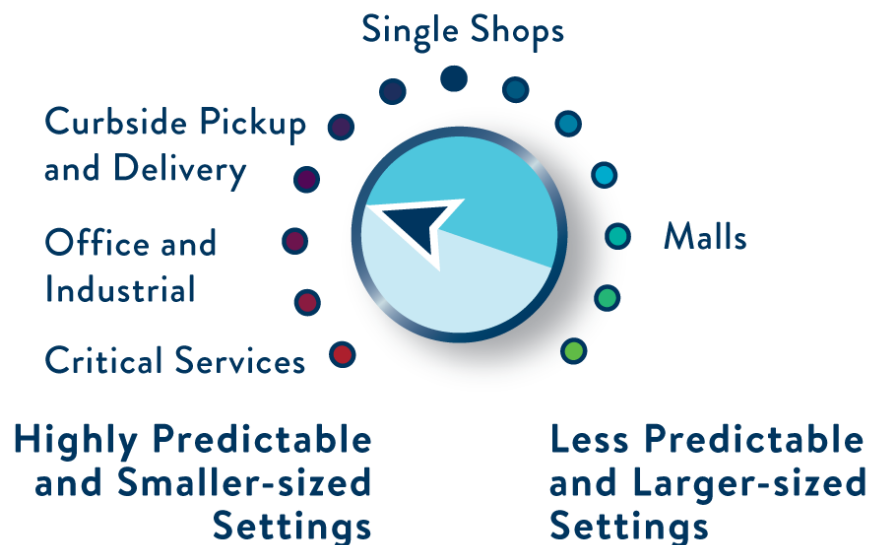


- All customer-facing retail establishments are eligible for curbside delivery/pickup, starting next Monday.
- Every business must develop and post a plan for how to do so; template available online.
- Online payment should be used in every possible scenario.
- Employees and customers should wear masks and protective equipment.
- In curbside pick-up scenarios, social distancing guidelines apply. Don't leave your vehicle if possible.
- In delivery scenarios, items should be deposited outside a customer's residence.

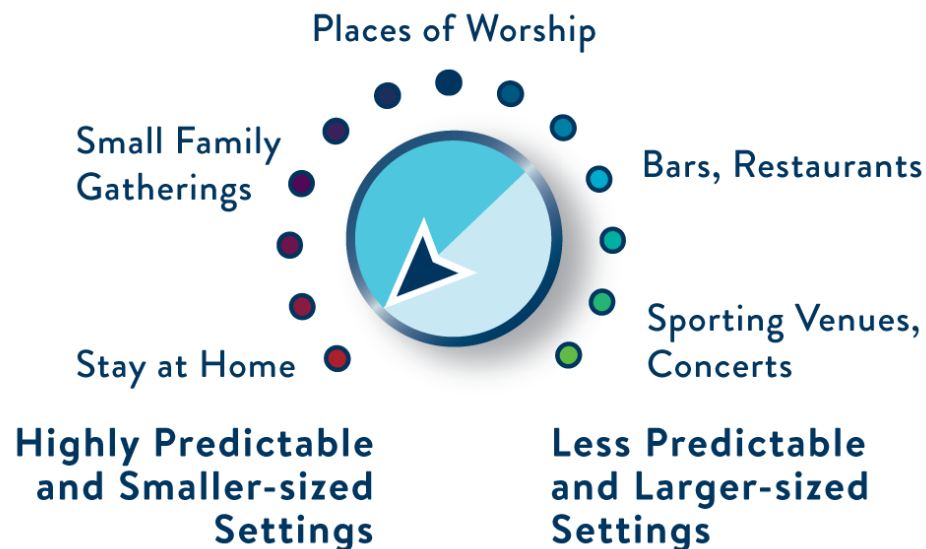


# Safely adjusting the dials

## WORKPLACE SETTINGS



## SOCIAL SETTINGS



## SCHOOL SETTINGS



## SAFE PRACTICES



- Wash your hands often
- Stay home when sick
- Social distance yourself
- Wear a mask

## COVID-19 RESPONSE



- Test symptomatic individuals
- Isolate positive cases and contact trace
- Protect those at heightened risk
- Build needed hospital capacity
- Procure critical care supplies

# Next Steps



- We are calling upon Minnesotans to each do their part. Stay home, practice safe social distancing, and wear a cloth mask—particularly when around vulnerable populations.
- As Minnesotans do their part, we will do ours. We need to deliver on testing, tracing, and isolating. Minnesotans needs to deliver on smart social distancing.
- If Minnesotans show that they can do this well, we can strategically continue to turn the dials, taking steps to reopen smartly and safely.







# Next Steps









- We are looking to revise the current ban on elective surgery. We will continue working with hospitals and other health care professionals on how to modify the order and will have an announcement in the coming days.
- If we keep making good progress on testing, social distancing, and some of the other factors we discussed previously, we will continue turning the dial.
- We will continue to have ongoing industry-specific consultations with the business and labor community.
- As a next step, this includes making plans to safely reopen other non-critical customer-facing settings.







# COVID-19 Response Milestones

## MARCH - APRIL

-  **March 6**  
First confirmed case in Minnesota
-  **March 13**  
Peacetime State of Emergency
-  Work with and support hospitals on their surge plans
-  Build public-private procurement team to buy needed supplies
-  Work with our schools and child care providers to care for children of critical workers
-  **March 17**  
Secured funding for critical public health and hospitals/providers

-  Survey sites around the state to find alternative care sites
-  **March 25**  
Stay at Home
-  Work with hospitals, long-term care facilities, and others on staffing plans and needs
-  **April 22**  
MN's Comprehensive Testing Strategy
-  **April 29**  
Sign lease with one alternative care site and begin build out, with more ready as needed
-  **April 30**  
Extend Stay at Home while opening more businesses

## MAY and beyond

-  **Early May**  
Revised EO on Elective Surgeries
-  Open additional customer-facing businesses
-  Hold small family gatherings
-  Open places of worship
-  Open high-contact businesses (barber shops and salons)
-  **More to come...**

# Things will be different for quite some time



- Even as we re-open more, life won't look the same for a while. And we will be prepared to dial back if needed.
- As we turn the dial, there are certain practices that we'll continue for some time, including:
  - Teleworking whenever possible
  - Wearing face masks in public
  - Symptom screening and temperature checks
  - Maintaining physical distance from each other
  - Forgoing things that we love, such as large sporting events or cultural gatherings, until we can be sure they can be done safely

# Thank you!



Together, as One Minnesota, we can save lives.

## Office of Governor Walz and Lt. Governor Flanagan